THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1773. THE NUMBER 354.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

Open to ALL PARTIES, but influenced by NONE.

LANEVILLE, February 8, 1773.

THE *ſheriffs who have been ſo long in arrear to his Majeſty's revenue of quitrents are once more called upon, in this public manner, to ſettle their accounts with the Auditor, and pay their reſpective balances into the Receiver's office by the 25th of* April *next. My inſtructions on this head are poſitive and peremptory, and I ſhall be obliged, in conſequence of them, ſtrictly to enforce the law againſt every ſheriff who fails in his duty, and neglects to make due payment.* RICHARD CORBIN, D. R. G.

From the POLITICAL REGISTER *for* November *laſt.*

TO THE PEOPLE of GREAT BRITAIN.

Eſto perpetua. Father Paul Sarpi.

Fellow countrymen and ſubjects,

IT has often occurred to me, and indeed has been frequently matter of ſurprize and concern to obſerve, that the greateſt part of thoſe who write or talk of political ſubjects ſeem to have loſt ſight of the Britiſh *conſtitution.* Should a foreigner, who knew our language, but was a ſtranger to our form of government, liſten to our political debates, as they are managed in converſation, in the prints, in eſſays, and other periodical publications (though many of them excellent in their kind, and the productions of ſenſible and penetrating men) he would, and *muſt*, conclude that in this country all depends *conſtitutionally* upon the abilities and integrity of a ſet of people called *Miniſters*, or great officers of ſtate. When he obſerved the animoſities of one party in favour of, and another againſt, a Grafton and a North, he would naturally conclude that the conſtitution of this country threw all the power of the empire into the hands of a Grand Vizir, and his ſlaviſh, crouching, fawning crew. When he heard one ſet regretting the Pelhamian, and another the Rockingham Miniſtry, he would take it for granted nothing is of the leaſt conſequence but the Miniſtry, and would ſuppoſe that the Britiſh conſtitution is abſolute power in the hands of a too often aſpiring treacherous junto. But how great would be his ſurprize when he was told that a Miniſtry is not even a part of the conſtitution, any more than Jack Ketch? Pardon the ſuppoſed meanneſs of the compariſon. I do not intend it ſhould run on all fours. I only introduce it to hint that *that* efficacious ſtate officer is neceſſary to the adminiſtration of government, and that is all that can be ſaid for a Miniſtry. Miniſters can be nothing more than ſo many delegates from the Sovereign, who finds it impoſſible to govern a wide extended dominion in *propria perſona.* Their importance is too much heightened if they are conſidered as any thing above aſſiſtants to their Royal Maſter, by their counſel and abilities in the weight of government. When they are employed in the intereſt of the King and people, which is but one and the ſame, though different, I am aware, from the doctrines of the preſent day, they are then reſpectable characters, whether they are Nobles, or whether they are Plebeians. But when they inſolently ſnatch the reins of office from the ſupreme power, and endeavour to precipitate a kingdom into anarchy and confuſion, they are then, according to the laws of reaſon, equity, and common ſenſe, amenable, juſtly amenable, at the bar of the diſcerning public, who will (in ſpite of all their endeavour to reſtrain the glorious freedom of ſpeaking and writing) ſcrutinize their conduct, deteſt their low and ſiniſter views, expoſe their ambition, and drag forth their crimes againſt a gracious Sovereign and his people, whoſe mutual weal they are bound by their oaths of office to conſult, to deſerved execrations. I wiſh I had not cauſe to ſay that ſuch too much has been the ſtate of adminiſtration in the preſent reign; and though I am far from joining with the unthinking mob, in every expreſſion of abuſe and ſlander, which I would ever deteſt; though I am far from thinking with ſome that the Miniſtry are, at this very moment, plotting the total deſtruction of the greateſt maſterpiece of policy in the world, yet, if impartiality is ſuffered to ſpeak, I muſt be indulged with ſaying that theſe ſervants have turned maſters; that they have uſurped powers to which they have no claim; that all their errors they have thrown on him who graciouſly employed them; that they have made him commit actions, and ſpeak ſentiments, which his benevolent heart perhaps would never have ſuggeſted; and finally, that they have been the ſole cauſes of that preſent melancholy alienation which ſubſiſts between a Britiſh King and a people whoſe affection and fidelity to the Hanover ſucceſſion (notwithſtanding accidental and temporary tumults of the populace, which muſt naturally ariſe on particular occaſions in free ſtates) is indubitably firm and unſhaken, let Tories and Jacobites inſinuate as they pleaſe. Haſten that deſirable reunion, great Ruler of the world! If any will be ſo bold as to riſe up, and term the aforeſaid allegations the hue and cry of faction, I hope ſuch will forgive me if I tell them it is with me beyond a doubt they have effectually put out their eyes, and are reſolutely determined to be blind. It is a ſhocking perverſion of this conſtitution to ſuppoſe that Miniſters are principals when only inſtruments. Do not imagine that our Miniſters are neceſſarily our ſeigniors becauſe the days have been, and ſtill are, when they are ſuffered ſo to be. The proper ſyſtem of government eſtabliſhed here is the joint authority of King, Lords, and Commons: But it ſhall never be ſaid, without reprehenſion, that theſe inſtruments, dependents, and often ſervile tools, are our lords, and our maſters. Let an enſlaved foreigner bow with ſubmiſſion, and tremble with fear, at the arbitrary acts and mandates of creatures like theſe, becauſe he muſt. We, in this happier ſpot, often bid them defiance, and tell them, in the face of the ſun, to know themſelves. We ſhould be (whatever is the caſe) no more governed by them than our laws ſhould be made, to reſume the compariſon, by a common hangman. Yet every thing would, in theſe days, lead our ſtranger into this view of the Britiſh conſtitution. It has been to ſeveral beyond meaſure ſurprizing, that where ſo many heads were lately laid together (and ſome of them, I verily believe, without a compliment, more formed for government than the preſent ſet in office) to make out a roll of grievances, and ſolicit redreſs, it ſhould not have occurred to them, eſpecially as hints to that purpoſe were given them by wiſe and impartial men, that whereas the ſpirit of party was likely to occaſion diſputes and cavils about the particular grievances they ſhould ſpecify, it had been beſt to ſpecify no particular grievances of preſent times, without roundly declaring the radix of all, and to have laid the weight of our complaints upon the infinitely important, and abſolutely undeniable, grievance of all times, viz. the ſubverſion of the conſtitution by the annihilation of King, Lords, and Commons, and the monopoly of all power by Miniſters; that whereas the excluſion of one Miniſtry, and the reception of another, certainly would not (if we may believe experience) produce any material redreſs of grievances, the right way of proceeding would be to requeſt not the excluſion of a particular ſet of men, but the reſtoration of the conſtitution. Were the conſtitution reſtored to its importance, and all court influence deſtroyed by the eſtabliſhment of ſhort Parliaments, and adequate repreſentation, and a place bill, would not every one of the grievances, mentioned in the late rejected petitions, be of courſe annihilated? Certain it is, this is the only probable method of annihilating them. As long as creatures, called Miniſters of State, remain inveſted with ſuch extraordinary powers, ſo long will the moſt nervous petitions be fruitleſs; ſo long will our grievances remain unredreſſed. To recollect the moſt important:

1ſt, Where would be the arbitrary power of Miniſters if our Houſe of Commons were in a ſtate of total independence on the court?

2d, Where would then be warrants, interrogatories, attachments, and ſuch-like unconſtitutional proceedings in caſes of libel? Libelling would be no more; for what occaſion would there be then of libelling Miniſters, when an independent Houſe of Commons held a much more formidable rod over them than the bittereſt libel?

3d, What would a free people have then to fear from that plague of nations, a ſtanding army? The very men who now compoſe the regular troops would be made a part of the national militia; and a militia could never be an object of dread, becauſe the men who compoſe it continue among the people, and have the ſame liberty, and the ſame principles of liberty, with the reſt, and yet would anſwer all the ends of repelling an invaſion, and of keeping the peace within the kingdom, more effectually than an army of ſlaves.

4th, There would then be no Macquirks to murder electors, becauſe there would be no motive to put candidates on conteſting elections when bribery was impracticable, when the members could ſit only one year, and whatever they voted this year for the Miniſtry might be unvoted the next; and when no placemen of any rank, kind, or degree, could enter within walls, that ſhould be ſacred to freedom.

5th, The complaint of improper perſons in the commiſſion of the peace would of courſe be greatly leſſened (if not totally removed) becauſe a Houſe of Commons that ſcorned to be dependent on, or to have their ſervices purchaſed by, a Miniſter from the public treaſure, would be a conſiderable check on mal-adminiſtration, even among the inferior officers in the kingdom.

6th, Threats and promiſes, for the ſake of influencing the Commons of Great Britain, would be abſurd; becauſe it would be, by the ſuppoſition, impoſſible to procure ſucceſs, all connection between them and the court being cut off.

7th, If the Commons refuſed to be the dupes of a Premier there would be no rejection of fairly elected members, nor foiſting in artificial ones, as in the never to be forgotten inſtance of Wilkes and Luttrell, which will ever remain in the annals of this kingdom an act of the higheſt injuſtice to the elected, and the greateſt contempt to the electors; I ſay no ſuch barefaced preference as this would take place, becauſe the court could not even hope to gain any one point with a Houſe of Commons abſolutely detached from all court influence, and therefore it would be a matter of total indifference to the court whether John or Henry was the ſitting member.

8th, No paymaſter, no treaſurer, no receiver, would dare to delay ſettling his accounts, were he certain of being obnoxious to an Houſe of Commons no way intereſted to protect him. Such an houſe would not procure a venal majority to ſtifle the enquiry, or to conceal the villainy, but would, without fear of miniſterial menace, demand his appearance at their awful bar; in caſe of failure, they would impeach him of treaſon againſt the public, and make him, though he may think himſelf at the very ſummit of independence, and affect to laugh at their vengeance, tremble for his fate.

9th, No man, or ſet of men, would preſume to miſapply the public treaſure, with the certainty of being called to a ſevere account by a Houſe whoſe intereſt was the ſame with that of the public, and who, by the ſhortneſs of their period of power, could not protect offenders, even if they were ſo diſpoſed, longer than one year.

10th, Our commerce and colonies would remain in a ſtate of tranquility and ſecurity, when there were no court tools to be provided for out of an income raiſed by arbitrary and unjuſt taxes, extorted under fear of military execution, from an unheard and unrepreſented people; as in the caſe of the Americans, who have been driven to an exceſs of rage by the thoughtleſs and impolitic conduct of the Miniſtry.

Again, were the Houſe of Commons of this uncorrupted caſt, our Engliſh Baſtile would no more be honoured with good and faithful Magiſtrates; but traitors and rebels would croud its various apartments. An undaunted Croſby, a reſpectable Oliver, would no more be apprehenſive of interruption in the performance of their duty and the fulfilment of their oaths, for ſuch a houſe would be of the ſame complexion with themſelves. Their actions, their ſpeeches, they would not fear ſhould be ſcrutinized to the bottom. An amiable Sovereign would no more be adviſed to reject petitions the moſt duteous and loyal, from a grateful and affectionate people; ſince then the repreſentatives would harmonize and concur with the repreſented. They would be eſſentially the ſame, though different in point of form. But now their views, their intereſts, their plans of operation, are diametrically oppoſite.

Laſtly, had we but a houſe crouded with men of unbiaſſed ſentiments, the father of his people would no more be perſuaded, in the unſuſpecting frankneſs of his nature, to return anſwers of diſguſt and reſentment to a city, which would be up in arms in his defence, in times of danger. Theſe are the chief heads of grievances, lately inſiſted on in our petitions, but conſtantly cavilled at by the court writers and addreſſers, as frivolous, ſeditious, and factious. Now, is it not evident that, to avoid the cavils of the court tools and addreſſers, the ſure way was to have inſiſted principally on the great and undoubted grievance of the ſubverſion of the conſtitution by long Parliaments, an inadequate and partially elected repreſentation, and a houſe filled with placemen, penſioners, and military officers? Such is the preſent

House. Corruption has so far spread itself, that but a few honest, virtuous members are left; but if these cease to make the noble stand they have done, and are at last infected with the general contagion, then, Britons! what have you left? I fear, I fear the British senate, once the Palladium of British liberty, will be swallowed up in the yawning gulph of absolute and unlimited monarchy. May that fatal period never arrive! Certain, beyond contradiction, it is, that on an uncorrupted House of Commons our every hope depends. If the gangrene becomes universal the body politic dies, never to rise more. Should any be disposed to regard the above apprehensions as the mere whims of the closet, or the product of a creature passed his grand climacteric, I would have them only think of Sweden in slavery, and believe it probable. The existence of the present House of Commons, its ruinous tendency, and its inconsistency with our glorious constitution, are what I think no man, who reasons right, will offer to deny. Nor can any person pretend that the restoration of the independency of the House of Commons is not the certain and only means of redressing the above, and all other grievances; nay, it is evident that if the people were certain of the dissolution of all connection between the court and the House of Commons, they must give over complaining, and opposition (which a courtier always ignorantly terms faction) must cease, because there would be little or nothing to complain of, when there is not even a suspicion of court influence in Parliament. And at the removal of a corrupt Ministry, and the establishment of an uncorrupt (if experience gives us any encouragement to hope for the least advantage from a change, which at present it does not) could at most only secure us better times during the period of their continuing in power; the restoration of the constitution would, on the contrary, afford us the prospect of internal and lasting happiness, till the people were pleased to suffer another subversion to take place. To petition, that one Ministry may be removed, and another introduced to power, as if on that single circumstance all depended, what is it but giving up the importance of the British plan, which, thank God, rests not on Ministers, but on the broad and solid basis of King, Lords, and Commons, and wants only restoration to its proper spirit and intent, to render us, in spite of state policy and machination, by the favour of a guardian deity, internally secure against all evils. However sanguine my wishes and yours for these Halcyon days, I confess my expectations of their arrival are but few; when I look through the nation, and see corruption making such dreadful strides, and the prerogatives of the Crown so manifestly encreasing. Among the many instances of this alarming fact that might be mentioned, let me recal to your remembrance the infamous Royal marriage bill, the project of designing statesmen, the spawn of monarchy, and the bane of princely virtue; an act in itself so absurd, so unjust, so repugnant to the rights of nature, so subversive of laws divine and human, so tyrannical in its form, and so pregnant with dangerous consequences in some remote period, that the Minister, Ministers, or Cabinet, which planned it, and the Houses who passed it, merit the highest censure. But glad am I at my heart that such things as these have been justly objected to by the dissentient Peers, who, to their honour be it spoken, have left on the journals of their House one of the most sensible and spirited protests that ever was penned for posterity to applaud their zeal, and acquit them of a scandalous concurrence. Every friend to liberty (a sound melodious in England, though represented by some as nothing more than popular insinuating declamation) owes them, and the Commons, who indefatigably opposed it, their best thanks for the reasons, arguments, and the eloquence, that they used in that memorable debate.

It is not yet too late to rectify the errors we have committed. The Majesty of the people of England! Thus did a famous speaker in that House, of which mention has just been made, introduce his speech, when its existence was in danger. Without any the least intention to derogate from the dignity of my rightful Sovereign, which I could wish might be ever preserved from the usurpations of artful and ambitious men, I would adopt the same expressive and animating stile. The Majesty of the people of England! Recollect your own importance, and rouse. Relinquish all less important matters, and in earnest fix your minds, bend your every aim, to the establishment of the noblest of constitutions! This work of ages is beginning to tumble! Why should you be (to use the words of a great writer on a more serious theme) always striking at the branches when the root is in danger? Why should you be always aiming at the rivulets, and never attack the fountain? Act as if you had the cause at heart indeed; let the amor patriæ be deeply engraven on your breasts; let men of rank and opulence apply themselves to this great object; let such who scorn on principle to receive any of the wages of iniquity take the lead in their respective spheres of influence; let them begin the work; let them blow the trumpet, not of sedition and rebellion, but disinterested zeal, and call to action. By a discouragement, a constant discouragement of tumultuous combinations, convince your enemies that your aim is not to dethrone your Sovereign, whose throne, may it be established in righteousness! or overturn the state, and then run mad upon the ruins of the kingdom, but that your single eye is to the re-establishment of King, Lords, and Commons, in their respective prerogatives. Let petitions for this purpose be decently and dutifully presented by men who appear to have the warmest regard for their country, and who are unplaced, unpensioned, and who promise to continue so. Let the unanimity be such as shall prove beyond contradiction that the sense of the nation actually is, what it ought to be, viz. that for *the safety of the state it is absolutely necessary immediately to establish short Parliaments, adequate representation, and a place bill.* If these important matters can be accomplished, my hopes of a golden age, yet to come, will revive; but if the English nation has not spirit to attempt, and resolution to prosecute, the plan; if sunk in sensuality, and enervated by pleasure and dissipation, it will forge its own chains; if it will sleep on the precipice of ruin; if it presumes on its riches, its commerce, its learning, its arts, its navy, and its peace; if it vaunts itself on the pre-eminence it holds among the nations of the earth, it can be alarmed by no considerations, then I shall live and despair; then I shall expect the day will come when the envy of the world will be no more. I wish not to inflame, but to encourage. I am not moved by disaffection, nor irritated by disappointment. These are my serious thoughts, whether I am connected with patriots, or courtiers. In retirement, or the busy world, I cannot in this respect, Proteus like, be continually changing my views. It stands on the pages of impartial history, that all the empires of antiquity fell by corruption; nor can Omnipotence itself, without the intervention of a miracle, I will add, fearless of the imputation of presumption, prevent the FALL of BRITAIN!

PHILO PATRIA.

NEWPORT *(Rhode Island) January* 11.

LAST Thursday a considerable bunch of full blown pansies was gathered in the garden of Mr. Caleb Earl, of this town; which flowers were produced merely by the mildness of the season, without any assistance of art more than is commonly used in all open gardens, and are still to be seen at this printing office: In the same garden have been gathered, within a few days, fine cabbage sprouts, marigolds, and dandelions, full blown; in another garden in town, we hear there are green pease near four inches high; and, in short, by accounts from every quarter of the town and country, the whole vegetable world seems just ready to start forth, dressed in all the charms of blooming May.

Last Tuesday between 11 and 12 o'clock, A. M. Captain Robert Keeler, of his Majesty's ship Mercury, accompanied by a number of officers belonging to the navy, proceeded to the court house in this town, in two ranks, carrying with them his Majesty's commission, appointing the Honourable Joseph Wanton, the Honourable Daniel Horsmanden, the Honourable Frederick Smyth, the Honourable Peter Oliver, and the Honourable Robert Auchmuty, commissioners, to enquire into, and report unto his Majesty, a full and true account of all the circumstances relative to the attacking, plundering, and burning, his Majesty's schooner the Gaspee; and to the assembling, arming, training, and leading on the people concerned therein, and to the concerting and preparing the said attack, and of all other insults or obstructions, which have been given to Lieutenant Duddingston, and to his Majesty's service in general in the colony of Rhode Island, &c. and being in the council chamber, waited until the arrival of the commissioners, when the commission was publicly delivered and proclaimed in presence of a great number of persons; after which James Brenton and James Clarke, Esquires, were appointed secretaries; and the court have set every day since for the dispatch of business.

The Judge Commissioners have published the following advertisement.

Colony of Rhode Island, &c. Newport, January 6, 1773

The public are hereby informed that the Honourable the commissioners, appointed by a commission under the great seal of Great Britain, for enquiring into the circumstances of attacking, plundering, and burning, his Majesty's ship the Gaspee, under the command of Lieutenant William Duddingston, on the 10th of June last, and to the assembling, arming, and leading on the persons who made the said attack, and to the concerting and preparing the same, are now convened, and continue to set every day, Sundays excepted, at the Colony House, in Newport: Wherefore all persons who can give information to the said commissioners relative to the attacking, plundering, and burning, his Majesty's said schooner, and to the assembling, arming, and leading on the persons who made the said attack, and to the concerting and preparing the same, are requested forthwith to give information thereof to said commissioners at the above mentioned place.

By order of the commissioners.

J. BRENTON, JAMES CLARKE, secretaries.

NEW LONDON, *January* 15.

We are informed that about a fortnight ago a vessel from St. Eustatia was seized at Newport by the Captain of a man of war, for having six sets of cups and saucers on board. But upon application to the Honourable Board of Commissioners at Boston, they thought proper to release the vessel.

WILLIAMSBURG, *February* 18.

The TRAVELLER.

NUMBER I.

Justitia versatur in hominum societate tuendâ, tribuendoque suum cuique, et rerum contractarum fide.

CICERO DE OFF:

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF DUNMORE, *&c. &c. &c.*

My LORD,

AS the immediate representative of his Majesty in this colony, I flatter myself there is no impropriety in addressing your Lordship whenever the liberty of the subject is infringed by a partial administration of justice, or an unwarranted exertion of authority. For when those laws which are the pillars of society are subverted by the very persons entrusted with their support, it becomes the duty of every well disposed member of it to appeal to the Supreme Magistrate to prevent the impending ruin. Of so important a nature is the due administration of justice, my Lord, that no state could long resist those impetuous shocks which the want of it must occasion, since anarchy would take place of all order and government, and the injured, when barred of legal redress, have recourse to the most violent measures to avenge their wrongs. The tyrannical administration of a NERO, or CALIGULA, would be more tolerable than a state governed by no laws, or (which is nearly the same) in which the laws of the land are over-ruled by the caprice of every subordinate Magistrate. For the people, instead of a single oppressor, like the wretched sons of Poland, would be subject to the persecutions of an host of tyrants. Such, my Lord, must infallibly be the lot of that country in which the choice of Magistrates, properly qualified to discharge their respective offices, is not sufficiently attended to. Oppression there will fix its standard, and compel the inhabitants to wear the yoke imposed by despotic ignorance, or arbitrary corruption. In vain may the sons of freedom vaunt their excellent constitution if the fundamentals of it may be shaken with impunity by a Magistrate under the sanction of his office. A Justice of the Peace, my Lord, as his very name denotes, is set over the people as the conservator of the public tranquility, and the guardian of their rights and privileges. Need I mention, then, that such a man should be chosen from among the people not for his possessions, but his integrity? Not for his interest, but his abilities? For it is of the utmost importance, my Lord, that those who are entrusted with the discharge of any office should be thoroughly acquainted with the duties of it; but when the office of a superior Judge is blended with the former, as it is in this colony, the choice of these Magistrates should ever be considered of the greatest moment. Not only the properties of the people, but their *lives* are dependent on their judgments. For, my Lord, however custom, or the laws of a country, might authorize a different opinion, I must yet consider those unhappy wretches, who are doomed to perpetual slavery, as no inconsiderable part of the people, and entitled to every act of humanity and justice How unfortunate, then, must they be whose temporal existence perhaps depends on the determination of an illiterate Judge? On the contrary, what miseries must attend that state where vice may go unpunished for want of Magistrates, sufficiently versed in the laws, to inflict the penalties they prescribe, or even to determine the nature of the offence against them. Yet, my Lord, these inconveniences are inevitable where Judges are indiscriminately appointed, without any regard to their abilities, or their principles. For in vain may the injured demand redress at a tribunal where the laws are little known, or disregarded. Far be it from me to suppose that frequent instances of perversion of justice, through the partiality or unskilfulness of the Magistrates, occur in this colony. But, my Lord, though a transient person, I have observed that even this land of liberty, which hath so often withstood the encroaching power of a British Parliament, is not exempt from a species of licensed oppressors. Nor is this observation merely chimerical, but deduced from a notorious fact, a narrative of which will prove the justice or futility of it. In December a warehouse of a * merchant at Beaufort was broke open in the night, and robbed of goods to a considerable amount. It may not be amiss (in order to set the determination of the Judges in the clearest point of view) to observe that it was utterly uninhabited, and detached from any other house belonging to the proprietor of it. A Negro was taken up on suspicion: He confessed the fact, and impeached several others, in whose possession many of the goods were found; and, by their information, others were recovered. After examination before a Justice of the Peace, they were delivered into the custody of the sheriff, to be

* Mr. John Richards.

committed to priſon. But, my Lord, a † *Juſtice of the Peace* (the maſter of one of the Negroes) in defiance of thoſe laws, in conformity to which he was ſworn to act, reſcued his ſlave as the ſheriff was performing the duty of his office. His great ſoul ſuggeſted to him that though the Sovereign on the throne is not exempt from obedience to the laws, yet *he* was beyond their reach. But let him tremble when he hears that by this violation of them he has incurred the offence of which the party reſcued was afterwards convicted. Nor will his ſhameful excuſe of *ignorance*, nor the ſpecious one that he intended to produce his Negro before the court, avail him. For by the laws of this colony he could not have bailed him; conſequently he could not take him without giving any ſecurity. My Lord, I do not barely aſſert that the Negro was not bailable. I have the authority of an act of Aſſembly, which declares, "That every ſlave committing ſuch offence as by law is puniſhable with death, or loſs of member, *ſhall forthwith be committed to the common gaol* of the county wherein ſuch offence ſhall be done." And that the preſent offence was of that nature appears from the ſame law, which enacts, "That if any Negro, Mulatto, or Indian, ſhall be convicted of feloniouſly breaking and entering any houſe in the night time, and taking from thence any goods or chattels to the value of twenty ſhillings, they ſhall ſuffer death without benefit of clergy." My Lord, I have recited this law, not only as a confirmation of what I advanced, but in order to throw a ſtronger light on the determination of the court. But the reſcue was productive of greater miſchiefs than might at firſt occur. The Negro might probably have diſcovered more of the goods had he been committed to priſon; but when he was releaſed he was at liberty to fall on other methods of concealment, by which means it is likely the merchant was prevented from recovering the greater part of his loſt effects.

I muſt now beg leave to take a view of the proceedings at the trial. On the day appointed the Gentleman brought his Negro to court, ſwearing, in the preſence of divers perſons, that *he ſhould not be hanged, for he would not take two hundred pounds for him.*" This declaration, my Lord, was made by a Judge inveſted, as I have ſaid before, with authority to determine on the lives and properties of his fellow ſubjects. What can be a more evident demonſtration of tyrannical oppreſſion than ſuch an overt declaration? What man is ſecure in his liberty or poſſeſſions when juſtice is ſo totally diſregarded, nay, ſet to open defiance? Yet this perſon, my Lord, was not only ſuffered to make ſuch declarations, but permitted, in contempt of the court, in violation of all the rules of decorum, to interrupt, contradict, and abuſe, the evidence, during his examination, in the groſſeſt terms. Well, indeed, might he infringe the rules of decorum who had ſo openly broken the fundamental laws of the realm with impunity. From the Negro's evidence, with other concurring circumſtances, it was clearly proved that he, in conjunction with the priſoners at the bar, had *feloniouſly broken* and *entered* the ſtore in the *night* time, and had *ſtolen* out of it *goods* to a conſiderable amount, *more* than is required by the law to make the offence capital. As Jurors, the Gentlemen found the fact: As Judges, ſome of them were at a loſs whether to define it *burglary*, or *felony*. Yet, my Lord, the leaſt acquaintance with thoſe laws, of which, *ex officio*, they are the oracles, would have readily pointed out the difference. After a long debate the offence was properly adjudged felony. Why then was not that ſentence paſſed which the laws I have recited preſcribe? Perhaps, my Lord, the Gentlemen were aware that ſhould they pronounce ſentence of death, their colleague, who had committed the reſcue, might, on a proſecution, incur the like. If that was the motive, I cannot ſufficiently applaud the method they embraced to ward off ſo foul a diſgrace as that muſt inevitably have thrown upon their honourable Board. One of theſe Gentlemen delivered it as his opinion, in a moſt pathetic ſpeech, that "as the affair was of ſo intricate a nature as not to admit of a determination whether the offence was capital or not, he thought it better to err on the ſide of mercy." This was embraced by another, who added, in confirmation of it, that *ten guilty perſons had better eſcape than one innocent man be puniſhed.* The maxim I allow to be a good one: But nought but blind partiality could have ſuggeſted the application of it. Thus, my Lord, the criminals were diſmiſſed, with a gentle rebuke, without even the ſlighteſt corporal puniſhment. Well might the Roman Cenſor have exclaimed, *O tempora! O mores!* had ſuch corrupt Judges preſided in the forum. But ſuch irregular, I had almoſt ſaid unjuſt, proceedings are not uncommon in Eſſex court. Yet I cannot conclude without doing juſtice to *three* of the *five* Gentlemen, whoſe upright and impartial behaviour afforded examples worthy of imitation. But as the law requires the concurrence of *four* Judges to convict, their opinions were of little avail.

I leave to your Lordſhip's own reflections the ill conſequences which muſt inevitably attend a total diſregard to the municipal, and particularly the penal laws, the end of which is to afford an aſylum to the injured, to redreſs their grievances, and to reſtrain and puniſh vice whenever it is detected. When theſe objects of the laws are not attended to, the liberty of the ſubject is more dangerouſly wounded than by any act of ſovereignty or deſpotiſm; and as laws are moſt effectually enforced by the penalties they inflict, ſo to neglect inflicting thoſe penalties is the moſt effectual method of deſtroying the very end of their creation; that is, the happineſs of ſociety.

As this addreſs was dictated by the regard to juſtice only, without any prejudice againſt, or in favour of, any of the parties, to *all* whom I am an utter ſtranger, I ſhall make no apology, my Lord, for this appeal to your judgment on an affair of real importance to the well being of ſociety. Your Lordſhip's regard to the ſubject's liberty will inform you that it is proper, and the love of juſtice will, I doubt not, ſuggeſt to you the moſt effectual method of preventing future oppreſſions of a ſimilar nature. I am,

With the utmoſt reſpect,
My LORD,
Your Lordſhip's moſt humble ſervant,
A TRAVELLER.

† G. Boughan, Eſquire.

☞ Doctor GRAHAM, ſo well known for his peculiar abilities in curing the diſeaſes of the EYES and EARS, is, we hear, expected in this city about the middle of April next.

Died Mr. WILLIAM PRENTIS, of this city.

MOUNT PLEASANT, *Mattapony*, *Feb.* 10, 1773.

THE copartnery of *Miller* and *Heſlop* being diſſolved, all perſons indebted are requeſted to make immediate payment. Thoſe that cannot, and expect any indulgence, are deſired to give their notes or bonds, that no diſputes may hereafter ariſe; thoſe that fail, ſuits will be commenced againſt them without reſpect of perſons. The debts due the copartnery are now entirely the property of the ſubſcriber, who has empowered Mr. *David Blair*, of *Fredericksburg*, to collect the debts. I intend for *Great Britain* immediately after the *April* General Court. All perſons indebted to me, on my own private account, are deſired to make ſpeedy payment, to prevent trouble; and thoſe who have any demands againſt me, or *Miller* and *Heſlop*, are deſired to make them known immediately, that they may be ſettled.

JOHN MILLER.

On Wedneſday *the 24th of this inſtant* (February) *if fair, if otherwiſe, the next fair day, will be* SOLD, *by the decree of* Glouceſter *court, at the courthouſe of the ſaid county,*

TWENTY FIVE LIKELY

NEGROES.

Six months credit will be allowed, the purchaſers giving bond and good ſecurity.—Alſo will be SOLD, at the ſame time and place, TWENTY more likely NEGROES, for ready money, or ſhort credit.

BEN: SHACKELFORD, S. Sheriff.

KING & QUEEN, *January* 28, 1773.

I INTEND to leave the colony very ſoon.

EDWARD WYATT.

HARDY COUNCIL, of *Iſle of Wight* county, by deed, dated the 22d day of *April*, 1730, ſold unto *Richard Wooton*, and *Lucy* his wife, during their natural lives, and after their deceaſe to *William Wooton*, five hundred acres of LAND, ſituate in the county aforeſaid, near *Kingſale* ſwamp: Two hundred acres of ſaid land, by ſeveral conveyances, have been in my poſſeſſion, and thoſe from whom I claim, ever ſince the date of the above mentioned deed, which, through ſome neglect, hath not been recorded, and the witneſſes thereto are now dead; and as I am informed that one *Joſhua Council* pretends a claim to the ſaid land, I therefore give the public notice, that he may not impoſe on any perſon in the ſale of the ſaid two hundred acres, as I am in the quiet poſſeſſion of the ſame, and am determined to keep it till ſome perſon can produce a better title.

BENJAMIN BAKER.

AT a General Court, held at the Capitol the 15th day of *April* 1765, I obtained a decree of a bond againſt *Thomas Stokes*, ſenior, for three hundred pounds, which bond the ſaid *Stokes* refuſed to deliver up to Mr. *Thomas Whiting*, Gentleman, at the time of ſettlement: This is therefore to forewarn all clerks, ſheriffs, and others, from iſſuing out or executing any writ for the recovery of the ſaid bond.

BANISTER ROWE.

RUN away from *Eltham*, on *Sunday* the 10th of *January*, a light Mulatto fellow named OTHO, about 5 feet 9 inches high, freckled in the face, has light grey eyes, and brown hair, which he wears tied behind, his ſkin under his clothes is very white, and had on, when he went away, a blue cloth waiſtcoat, and a coat of the ſame, with a red velvet cape. I expect he will endeavour to paſs for a white man. All maſters of veſſels are forewarned from harbouring or carrying the ſaid ſlave off at their peril. I will give FIVE POUNDS to any perſon who will deliver him to me, or ſecure him in any gaol, and give notice thereof.

BURWELL BASSETT.

TAKEN up, in *King William*, a pied cow, with a crop and two ſlits in the right ear, and a ſwallowfork in the left. Poſted, and appraiſed to 1l. 15s.

THOMAS REDD.

RUN away from Mr. *James Hunter*'s, oppoſite *Fredericksburg*, on his way to *Frederick*, a Negro man named JACK DISMAL, a black ſlim made fellow, about 5 feet 10 inches high, has thick lips, and is a cunning, artful fellow. It is ſuppoſed he went down *Rappahannock* in ſome veſſel, in order to get to *James* river. Whoever ſecures the ſaid Negro, ſo that I get him again, ſhall have FORTY SHILLINGS, or FIVE POUNDS if delivered to *William Herndon*, my overſeer, in *Frederick* county.

ROBERT BURWELL.

By his EXCELLENCY *the Right Honourable* JOHN *Earl of* DUNMORE, *his Majeſty's Lieutenant and Governor General of the colony and dominion of* Virginia, *and Vice Admiral of the ſame:*

A PROCLAMATION.

VIRGINIA, to wit.

WHEREAS the GENERAL ASSEMBLY ſtands prorogued to the firſt *Thurſday* in *May* next, but it is judged expedient that the ſaid Aſſembly ſhould meet ſooner, in order to deliberate on a matter I have to lay before them of great moment to the welfare of this colony; I have therefore thought fit, by and with the conſent and advice of his Majeſty's Council, by this proclamation, in his Majeſty's name, to appoint *Thurſday* the fourth day of *March* next for that purpoſe; at which time the attendance of the General Aſſembly is accordingly required at the capitol in the city of *Williamſburg*.

Given under my hand and the ſeal of the colony, at Williamſburg *aforeſaid, this 6th day of* February, 1773, *and in the thirteenth year of his Majeſty's reign.*

DUNMORE.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

TREASURY OFFICE, *February* 8, 1773.

WITHIN theſe few days I have ſeen a FIVE POUND BILL dated in 1771, the only one that has fallen into my hands, in which the bars or white lines encloſing the letter T are exactly at the ſame diſtance from each other as in the true bill of the ſame date; but the lines which form the other two columns on each ſide of the T are much nearer each other in the forged than in the good bills. The T in this bill does not ſtand ſquare, but inclines pretty much to the left hand. I have alſo ſeen ſeveral bills of 1771 which ſeem to be impreſſed on the ſame ſort of paper as was uſed for the forged bills dated in 1769; the bars or white lines running from the tops to the bottoms of theſe bills are nearly at the ſame diſtance from each other as in the counterfeits of 1769, all much wider than thoſe of the true bills. As theſe appear freſh from the preſs, it is hoped many of them have not yet been thrown into circulation; but I think it neceſſary to give the public the earlieſt caution.

RO. C. NICHOLAS, Treaſurer.

THURSDAY, *December* 4, 1766.

On a motion made,

ORDERED, That the clerks of the ſeveral county courts in this colony do tranſmit to the clerk of this Houſe, in the firſt part of every meeting of the General Aſſembly, a liſt of the tithables in their counties, containing the names of ſuch tithables; and that they tranſmit alſo, at the ſame time, a liſt of the public charges of their reſpective counties.

Ordered, That the clerk of this Houſe do cauſe the ſame to be publiſhed in the *Virginia* Gazette.

By the Houſe of Burgeſſes.
G. WYTHE, Cl. H. B.

PURSUANT to an order of the Honourable the General Court, we ſhall attend at the houſe of Captain *George Weedon* in *Fredericksburg*, on *Monday* the 15th of *March* next, to ſtate and report any demand that ſhall be laid before us againſt *John Campbell*, Eſquire, of *Newpoſt*, of which all his creditors are to take notice, and attend with proper proofs to aſcertain their demands.

FIELDING LEWIS,
CHARLES DICK,
JOSEPH JONES,
JOHN LEWIS.

TAKEN up, on *John*'s creek, in *Botetourt*, a roan mare about 13 hands 3 inches high, 11 years old, has a ſmall ſtar in her forehead, a natural pacer, and branded on the near ſhoulder IC. Poſted, and appraiſed to 9l.

EDWARD CARVIN.

To be LET, *to the lowest bidder, on the first* Monday *in* March *next, at Mr.* Abraham Cowley's, *in* Richmond *town*, Henrico *county*,

THE building of an addition to the CHURCH in the ſaid town, forty by twenty four feet, with galleries on both ſides and one end; a plan of which will be that day produced, and the time of payment made known to the undertaker, who muſt give bond and ſecurity for the performance of the ſaid work.

THE CHURCHWARDENS.

RICHMOND town, *February* 9, 1773.

WILLIAM HENDERSON, in his advertiſement of the 1ſt inſtant, informs the public that the noted *William Cuninghame* and company, of *Glaſgow*, will not look on any tranſactions of mine on their account, ſince the 1ſt day of *November* laſt, as binding on them: In juſtice to myſelf, I think it neceſſary to acquaint the public that, on giving up the charge of the ſtore kept by me at this place on ſaid *Cuninghame* and company's account to him, it was agreed between Mr. *James Robiſon*, of *Falmouth*, and me, in *Henderſon*'s preſence, that my intention ſhould not be made public till it was convenient for him to leave *Cabin Point*; and from the 1ſt of *November* laſt I have carried on the buſineſs according to his directions, and made no contracts with any perſon on account of ſaid *Cuninghame* and company but what he is in the knowledge of. I can account for this conduct of Mr. *Henderſon*'s in no other way than as a pretence for not paying off ſome of my engagements, prior to the 1ſt of *November*, at the laſt meeting of the merchants. If in conſequence of any inſtructions he may have received from his employers he has inſerted this advertiſement, I preſume he has taken this uncommon method to ingratiate himſelf with theſe worthy Gentlemen, and may, on that account, be excuſable. If not, he has betrayed a degree of malice equal to his ignorance.

ANDREW CHALMER.

CABIN POINT, *February* 1, 1773

AS the ſtore formerly kept at *Richmond* town by Mr. *Andrew Chalmer*, for Meſſieurs *William Cuninghame*, and company, of *Glaſgow*, has been under my management ſince the 1ſt of *November* laſt, I think it neceſſary to give this public information that the ſaid concern will not think themſelves obliged, from that time, to anſwer any contract or engagement entered into by Mr. *Chalmer*, as manager for the company at that place.

WILLIAM HENDERSON.

I INTEND to ſell the following tracts of LAND, in *Cumberland* county, to wit, the land whereon I now live, which contains about 1500 acres, on which is a good dwellinghouſe, and all convenient outhouſes, in good repair; alſo a peach orchard which contains about 8000 fine young trees of the beſt fruit, an apple orchard which contains about 250 fine young trees, and almoſt every other kind of fruit trees in a flouriſhing ſtate. On the ſaid plantation is ſowed about 60 acres of land in timothy; there is likewiſe a well accuſtomed griſt mill on a conſtant ſtream. Alſo a tract about three miles below the former, which lies near the courthouſe, and contains about 900 acres, on which is an apple orchard, convenient houſes for cropping, and about 100 acres of as good meadow land as any in the colony, which may be overflowed in a few hours by a ſtream that runs through it; about ſix acres of ſaid land is ſowed in timothy. Likewiſe about 600 acres, lying on both ſides of *Willis*'s, of which there are about 200 acres of low grounds, a good apple orchard, and all convenient houſes for cropping. Alſo 200 acres on *Muddy* creek, with a plantation thereon. The above lands, except the laſt mentioned, lie as well, and is as ſuitable for the culture of corn, tobacco, and wheat, as any in this part of the country. I have alſo for ſale, on *Dan* river, near *Dix*'s ferry, about 1500 acres. For terms apply to

JOHN MAYO.

To be SOLD, *at public auction, on the premiſes, on* Thurſday *the 25th of* February,

A TRACT of LAND, pleaſantly ſituated on *Mattapony* river, in *King & Queen* county, containing about 650 acres, whereon is a genteel two ſtory brick houſe, and convenient outhouſes, all of brick, and in good repair; alſo a large warehouſe, 60 by 24, with a brick cellar the length of the houſe, and within 30 yards of a wharff, where veſſels of a hundred tons may load. One half the purchaſe money to be paid on the 25th of *October* next, and the other half on the 25th of *April*, 1774, the purchaſers giving bond, with approved ſecurity, to

JOHN MEREDITH.

*** There are, belonging to the above mentioned tract of land, 100 acres of marſh, on the other ſide the river, which will be ſold with the land. Likewiſe, at the ſame time and place, will be ſold, on twelve months credit, all my ſtock of horſes, cattle, hogs, *&c.* with a conſiderable quantity of houſhold and kitchen furniture. J. M.

I WILL ſell twelve or fifteen hundred acres of rich LAND on each ſide of *Fiſh Pond* creek, in the lower end of *Buckingham*, whereon are all neceſſary houſes for cropping; alſo the CORN, FODDER, and STOCK on the ſaid land, and ſix valuable *Virginia* born SLAVES. If my debtors had not unjuſtly kept me out of conſiderable ſums of money for a long time I ſhould have had no occaſion to have ſold land or Negroes to have paid my debts. Land that I ſold eleven years ago I am not yet paid for, and a cargo of goods I entruſted a notorious villain with ſeveral years ago, I have not received forty pounds from him, and he refuſes to let me ſee the books to copy them, or to ſettle with me.

ANTHONY WINSTON.

*** The land ſhall be laid off in parcels if not ſold ſoon.

NANSEMOND, *February* 2, 1773.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

UPON CHARTER, FOR PORT GLASGOW,

A VESSEL of about 400 hogſheads. For terms apply to

JOHN HAMILTON, and company.

TAKEN up, in *Prince George*, a large black horſe, appears to be very old, has been much worked, paces ſlow, branded I on the near buttock, has a ſhort ſprig tail and a divided mane. Poſted, and appraiſed to 3l. 5s. WILLIAM ANDERSON.

TAKEN up, in *Auguſta*, a bright bay mare, about 5 years old, 13 hands high, has a blaze in her forehead, paces and trots, but neither docked nor branded. Poſted, and appraiſed to 4l. 5s.

JAMES TRIMBLE.

THOMAS GLASS,

GOLDSMITH AND JEWELLER,

BEGS leave to inform his friends in particular, and the public in general, that he carries on his buſineſs as uſual, at his ſhop in *Hanover* town; but having experienced the inconvenience of giving credit, is determined for the future to deal for ready money only. He returns thanks to his friends for paſt favours, and aſſures them that they may depend on having their orders executed, and at the loweſt prices.

On the firſt day of April *next will be expoſed to ſale, for ready money*,

THE well known TAVERN ſometimes called *Baylis*'s, ſometimes *Farrow*'s, at preſent *Reno*'s ordinary, ſituate in the center of *Prince William*, eight miles from *Dumfries*, where all back roads terminate, and I believe more tobacco paſſeth by this door in one year than is made in the whole county in the ſame time, which renders it an excellent place either for tavern keeping, or a back ſtore, with all convenient houſes for either of thoſe purpoſes, a well of good water, and about 400 acres of land. Alſo another tract of land, adjoining the aforeſaid, containing about 250 acres, with a large dwellinghouſe thereon in good repair, orchards, gardens, *&c.* and is in tolerable good order either for farming or cropping, the whole ſurrounded perhaps with as good a range for cattle of all kinds as is on this ſide the *Blue Ridge*. The whole will be ſold together, or in parts, as may beſt ſuit the purchaſers; and by application to the ſubſcriber, four miles from the premiſes, any perſon may be ſhewn the land, and plats thereof, according to an accurate ſurvey.

CORNELIUS KINCHELOE.

STRAYED, or ſtolen, from the upper part of *King George*, a large black mare, with ſome of her feet white, a ſprig tail, a ſtar in her forehead, and a ſore back when ſhe went away, but no brand that I remember. Whoever takes up the ſaid mare, and will contrive her to the ſubſcriber, living near *Boyd*'s *Hole*, in *Stafford* county, ſhall have TWENTY SHILLINGS reward.

LAWRENCE WASHINGTON.

PETERSBURG, *December* 28, 1772.

SOME time ago Mr. *John Aſhton* advertiſed ſome Negroes for ſale, as part of the eſtate of Mr. *John Monro*, deceaſed, ſince which I am informed a conſiderable number of them belong to the eſtate of Col. *Andrew Monro*, deceaſed, this is to give notice to all perſons that the whole eſtate of the ſaid *Andrew Monro*, conſiſting of ſeveral tracts of land, forty Negroes, and their encreaſe, ſtocks of cattle, *&c.* is all mortgaged to Sir *Lyonel Lyde*, Baronet, of *London*, for a very conſiderable ſum, which is recorded in the General Court, and as any purchaſer can have no right to any part of the mortgaged effects till this debt is diſcharged, I have taken this method to inform the public, that no perſon may be deceived in making a purchaſe of any part of the mortgaged effects.

RICHARD HANSON,

Attorney for Sir LYONEL LYDE, Baronet.

*** All perſons indebted to Sir LYONEL LYDE, Baronet, and company, are deſired to make immediate payment; and as great indulgence has been given, ſuits will be brought againſt all thoſe who do not diſcharge their accounts at the next *April* General Court.

STRAYED, or ſtolen, out of my paſture, the 11th of *January*, a ſorrel mare near 14 hands high, with a blaze face, ſome ſaddle ſpots, her hind legs white up to her knees, and a white ſpot on each flank, paces ſlow, has a half roached mane, and ſwitch tail, trots hard, is long bodied, and branded Z, but ſcarcely perceivable. Whoever brings the ſaid mare to me ſhall receive TWENTY SHILLINGS, beſides a reaſonable allowance if taken up above 50 miles from my houſe, near *Littlepage*'s bridge, *Caroline* county; or if ſtolen, I will give FIVE POUNDS on conviction of the thief.

DUNCAN GRAHAM.

HANOVER town, *January* 4, 1773.

I HEREBY give notice that againſt the 1ſt of *March* next the buſineſs now under my management will be put into the hands of Mr. *John Davis*, who has full power to ſettle and collect the debts due to Meſſ. *Murdochs*, *Donalds*, and company, contracted at the ſtores kept at *Boſwell*'s by Mr. *William Donald*, and at this place by me. As many people have hitherto put off the ſettlement of their accounts, they cannot expect longer indulgence, unleſs their debts are aſcertained; for which purpoſe I will give conſtant attendance here till the 1ſt of *March*, except the time of the merchants meeting in *Williamſburg*, and ſome of the adjoining county court days, which can be no inconvenience to thoſe who come to ſettle, as Mr. *Davis*, who is thoroughly acquainted with the buſineſs, will then attend. The debts due to Meſſ. *Andrew Cochran*, *Robert Donald*, and company, will be collected by Mr. *Richard Morris*, as formerly.

JOHN JOHNSON.

NORFOLK, *January* 5, 1773.

WHEREAS the partnerſhip of *Bolden*, *Lawrence*, and company, expired on the 1ſt of this inſtant, this is therefore to requeſt all perſons indebted to them to pay off their accounts immediately, or ſettle their balances by bond, and thoſe to whom they are indebted are deſired to apply, and receive payment. The buſineſs of the houſe will be continued, and carried on to its uſual extent, by

JOHN LAWRENCE, and company.

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, living in *Weſtmoreland*, the 12th of *Auguſt*, an *Iriſh* convict ſervant man named MATTHEW THARP, by trade a gardener, about 5 feet 5 inches high, well made, much pitted with the ſmallpox, has ſhort dark hair, but generally wears a dark wig over it clubbed; had on, and took with him, a pair of leather breeches, light coloured cloth coat, old ſtriped jacket, ſeveral white and oznabrig ſhirts, one check ditto, an old brown holland coat, ſtriped holland trowſers much ſtained, ſhoes and ſtockings of many ſorts, a hat almoſt new, with a band and buckle. This fellow was convicted laſt *June* Oyer Court was a twelvemonth for horſeſtealing. Any perſon that will ſecure him in any of his Majeſty's gaols, ſo that I get him, ſhall receive the above reward. JOSEPH PEIRCE.

N. B. I have reaſon to believe he has taken a half blooded bay mare, as I cannot find her; ſhe is about 14 hands high, and without a brand.

COMMITTED to the gaol of *Accomack* a runaway ſlave, about 21 years of age, 5 feet 4 inches high, very likely, and has a ſcar over his left eye, at his firſt commitment ſaid he belonged to Mr. *Otto Ball* on *James* river, but now ſays he belongs to Mr. *Morgan Sabb* in *Charleſtown*, *South Carolina*, and formerly was the property of Mr. *Cornelius Dirwick* of *Maryland*, and was ſold by Capt. *Benjamin Hammond* to the ſaid *Sabb*, and that his own name is ABNER; had with him, when taken up, two oznabrig ſhirts, and one pair of trowſers. He ſays he has been from his maſter two or three years, and has followed the water ever ſince. The owner, on proving his property, and paying charges, may have him of

ISAAC DUNTON, Sheriff.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, at *Peterſburg*, about the middle of *September* laſt, a very likely Negro man named PHIL, about 20 years of age, of a yelloviſh complexion, about 5 feet 9 inches high, and proportionably made; he is a native of *Africa*, but ſpeaks broken *Engliſh*, having been ſome years in the *Weſt Indies*, and has loſt two joints off two of his fingers on his right hand; had on an oznabrig ſhirt, an old *Virginia* cloth waiſtcoat, with a new Negro cotton jacket over it, and a pair of old check trouſers. As he has been uſed to the ſea, he will probably endeavour to get on board ſome ſhip, and make his eſcape out of the colony; all maſters of veſſels are therefore forewarned from harbouring or carrying him off, at their peril. I will give THREE POUNDS reward to any perſon who will deliver ſaid ſlave to me, or to Mr. *Hugh M'Mekin* at *Portſmouth*, and FORTY SHILLINGS to ſecure him in any gaol, and give notice thereof.

THOMAS GORDON.

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